

TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
RECORD OF MEETING
Third Quarterly Meeting, Fiscal Year 2004

Meeting Date: April 15, 2004
Meeting No.: 60

Place: TCEQ Campus, Building F
Room: 2210

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

TGPC Members

Affiliation

Mary Ambrose	TCEQ
Janie Hopkins	TWDB
Ambrose Charles	TDA
(no representative)	RCT
Allan Jones	TAES
Kevin Wagner	TSSWCB
Barry Miller	TAGD
Ken Ofunrein	TDH
Lee Parham	TDLR
Bridget Scanlon	BEG

Agency Staff

Affiliation

Program

Jorge Arroyo	TWDB	
Cary Betz	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Leon Byrd	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Abiy Berehe	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Patricia Bobeck	TDH	
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Richard Eyster	TDA	
Frank Fuller	TCEQ	Policy & Standards
Michael Hare	TDA	
Bruce Lesikar	TCE	
John Lich	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Steve Musick	TCEQ	Technical Analysis Division
Joe Thomas	TCEQ	Policy & Regulation Division
John Williams	TCEQ	Environmental Law Division

Interested Parties

Affiliation

Mary Etter	LCRA
Lynne Fahlquist	USGS
Donna Long	DLS Technologies
Gerry Schindel	EAA
Billy Phenix	Texas Land & Mineral Owners

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Agenda
2. USGS Memo-Data Dictionary Review and Ambient Groundwater Monitoring Network Design Progress
3. TGPC Record of Meeting, Second Quarter, FY04
4. Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report - 2003. Summary Report
5. Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report - 2003. Table of Contents
6. Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee Report
7. Ground Water Protection Council and Ground Water Protection Research Foundation Meeting Summary
8. TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair & Conference – Brochures
9. 2004 National Monitoring Conference – Brochure
10. TGPC Rule Log Update on April 15, 2004
11. Letter from Dripping Springs, TX. Application to the TWDB for funding of a Regional Water Quality Protection Plan for the Barton Springs Segment of the Edwards Aquifer and its Contributing Zone.
12. TCPG Legislative Report Subcommittee – Draft Time Line
13. Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee Charge – Draft
14. Nonpoint Source Task Force Charge – Draft
15. Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee – Draft Agenda
16. Activities of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee -Report to the 78th Legislature

MEETING RECORD OF APRIL 15, 2004

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Mary Ambrose, Designated Chairman of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC), called the FY2004, Third Quarterly Meeting to order at 1:05 P.M., CDT.

II. Subcommittee Reports

Agricultural Chemicals - Steve Musick, TCEQ, Chair. The Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee held its FY 2004 third quarter meeting on April 15, 2004 at 10:30 a.m.

The members were updated on Task Force (TF) activities:

Site Selection - The TF Chairman (TWDB) reported that this year's sampling effort had been initiated in the High Plains (Ogallala) aquifer. Approximately 94 samples have been analyzed by TCEQ for Atrazine and Metolachlor. Three Groundwater Conservation Districts are participating in the sampling.

Education - The TF Chairman (TCE) reported on several county level, agricultural producer seminars in the High Plains area which included information on the pesticide water quality activities of the Subcommittee. The Chairman also reported that the Atrazine BMP outreach Project had been initiated. Work is currently focused on the development of educational materials.

Under the Subcommittee's Business items:

The Subcommittee discussed and approved revisions to the Subcommittee's charge (for update by the full committee). The Subcommittee discussed a recommended outline of pesticide-related research needs and concurred in sending the request to the Groundwater Research Subcommittee.

Members were updated on the status of the EPA Atrazine agreed order process (iRED). In addition to the participation of Syngenta (manufacturer), the remaining registrants have agreed to sign the EPA Agreed Order. The Members discussed the priority rankings of sampling projects in the FY04 Pesticide Monitoring Plan. The Subcommittee heard announcements and there were no public comments.

Data Management - Lynne Fahlquist, USGS The data dictionary is being evaluated by TNRIS and TCEQ. The ambient groundwater project is underway and parameters to monitor are being established for the High Plains monitoring program.

Public Education and Outreach - Bruce Lesikar, TCE, Chair, announced the total membership of the subcommittee (Meeting handout No. 15). The first meeting of the full membership will be held on April 29, 2004. Topics of discussion for the meeting are

abandoned well closures, TexAsyst program, public drinking water programs, and on-site waste water systems.

Groundwater Research - Bridget Scanlon, BEG, Co-Chair. The Groundwater Research Subcommittee met this morning. Research needs were put into a matrix and from this matrix white papers will be written on several topics Draft copies will be sent to Committee members for review and approval.

Nonpoint Source Task Force - Kevin Wagner, TSSWCB, representative. This Subcommittee met March 11, 2004. The major topic was expansion of membership. A copy of the Draft Charge is presented as Meeting handout No. 14.

III. Presentation

Desalination Projects in Texas - Jorge Arroyo (TWDB). Desalting technologies have evolved rapidly over the past three years. With the state being susceptible to drought and traditional water sources being stressed desalination is becoming more and more important. Because the cost is constantly decreasing, desalination could be the answer to a consistent supply of good-quality water for the state.

Studies are being conducted to determine the supply of brackish groundwater available statewide for use as desalination feed water. Reports of findings by the TWDB's desalination program will be published this summer.

IV. Business - Discussion & Possible Action

Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report - 2003 - Cary Betz, TCEQ. Included in the handouts is a Table of Contents for the *Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report - 2003*. All of the data for this report has not been received. Traditionally, Committee approval of the Table of Contents has been sought prior to approval of the total report which is due on April 1, of each year for the previous year. Barry Miller, TAGD, made the motion to approve the Table of Contents as presented. Kevin Wagner, TSSWCB, seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

TGPC Report to the 79th Legislature, 2005 - Reactivation of Legislative Report Subcommittee and approval of the schedule and appointment of members - The Report to the 78th Legislature was presented as Meeting handout No. 16 and the TGPC Legislative Report Subcommittee submitted a draft time line for the publication of the TGPC Report to the 79th Legislature.

Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy - Discuss Strategy Implementation Issues - Frank Fuller, TCEQ. Specific recommendations have been placed with the appropriate subcommittees and have been incorporated into their respective charges.

Water Well Report files:

- there are problems with file deterioration and public access,
- internal TCEQ group working on options and funding, and
- interagency coordination is needed with TDLR, TWDB, and TAGD, some of which has occurred.

Review and Approval of Revised Subcommittee - Nonpoint Source Subcommittee, and Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee. Kevin Wagner, TSSWCB, called for approval of the Nonpoint Source Subcommittee, Mary Ambrose, Chair, so moved and Bridget Scanlon, BEG, seconded. The motion was unanimous.

Steve Musick, TCEQ, called for approval of the Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee charge, Barry Miller, TAGD, moved to approve the charge and Allan Jones, TAES, seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Set Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting date: August 19, 2004, 1:00 p.m., room #2210, building F, TCEQ Campus.

V. Information Exchange for Groundwater Related Activities/Status Update

Status - Water Quality Inventory (“305(b)”) Report -2004. Cary Betz, TCEQ. This report has not been completed. Concerns with groundwater quality in certain aquifers will be discussed in the report.

Status - State NPS Management Plan Development - Kevin Wagner, TSSWCB, The draft Plan was discussed at the stakeholder meeting January 29, 2004. A draft plan is being worked on which will help establish the funding from the State for the next five years.

Regional Water Planning Update - Texas Water Development Board. Janie Hopkins, TWDB. Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) for Region A is completed.

Groundwater Availability Modeling Update - Texas Water Development Board. Janie Hopkins, TWDB. Five GAMs will be completed by June 30, 2004. The central Gulf Coastal GAM is being recalibrated. The completed GAMs are being used to address questions from Regional Water Planning groups, Groundwater Conservation Districts, and other governmental organizations.

HB 3030 (Notification of Groundwater Contamination) - There is an internal TCEQ work group working on implementing interim procedures. TCEQ Point of Contact is Steve Musick. Since this bill was passed there have been six cases of contamination requiring notification, Five cases were responded to within the required 30 day time frame. RCT cooperated on two of these cases. There is one new case.

The work group is working with management to resolve issues regarding risk-based

notice, PRP involvement, internal procedures, and resources.

Ground Water Protection Research Foundation (associated with the Ground Water Protection Council) - Susi Ferguson, TCEQ, and Mary Ambrose, Chair, attended and participated in the Ground Water Protection Research Foundation/Ground Water Protection Council meeting held March 21-23, 2004 in Washington D. C. A brief summary of the meeting is included in Meeting handout No. 7.

VI. Announcements (All Members)

Groundwater Awareness Week - Sponsored by the National Ground Water Association and co-sponsored by the Groundwater Foundation. Ground Water Awareness Week will be held March 13-19, 2005.

Rules Update - TCEQ rule tracking log - Joe Thomas, TCEQ. A summary of the rule log was distributed to members. There are thirteen rules summarized in the tracking log with two of the rules adoption and projected dates yet to be determined.

Lee Parham, TDLR, presented rule proposed revisions relating to changes in water-well drillers and pump installer rules that went to effect December 1, 2003. Basically the proposed rule changes are more protective of groundwater by having more stringent monitoring well construction regulations and apprenticeship programs for drillers and pump installers. TDLR encourages all water-well drillers to locate new wells using GPS.

Ken Ofunrein, TDH, indicated that the rules regarding mold are being examined.

New Publications -No new publications were announced.

Upcoming Conferences

Environmental Trade Fair and Conference - May 3-5, 2004, Austin, Texas

2004 National Monitoring Conference - May 17-20, 2004, Chattanooga, Tennessee

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VIII. Adjourn

Chair, Mary Ambrose, adjourned meeting at approximately 3:03 P. M., CDT.